United States Environmental Protection Agency Washington, D.C. 20460

Solid Waste and Emergency Response (5101) EPA 500-F-98-228 July 1998

SEPA Brownfields Assessment **Demonstration Pilot**

Lakewood, CO

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower States, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. Since 1995, EPA has funded more than 150 Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots, at up to \$200,000 each, to support creative two-year explorations and demonstrations of brownfields solutions. The Pilots are intended to provide EPA, States, Tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Lakewood for a Brownfields Pilot. Lakewood (population 136,985) is located on the western edge of the Denver Metropolitan Area. The City's early development revolved around the West Colfax Avenue transportation corridor, which remains a prominent but aging commercial district. Historic land use within the corridor has resulted in soil and groundwater contamination from multiple sources. The Lakewood Pilot will target the West Colfax Revitalization Area (population 32,137). The 1990 Census revealed that 13% of residents in the target area lived below the poverty line, and 6.4% were unemployed. The target area is located in a Statedesignated Enterprise Zone.

OBJECTIVES

Lakewood's objective is to develop a commercially vital area surrounded by safe and attractive neighborhoods. The City plans to eliminate real and potential risks to human health and the environment; redevelop polluted sites to benefit affected communities both economically and environmentally; and raise public awareness and interest in brownfields redevelopment opportunities through public forums in affected neighborhoods. Pilot funding will be

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Lakewood, Colorado

Date of Announcement:

July 1998

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets the West Colfax Avenue transportation corridor, a prominent but aging commercial district.

Contacts:

City of Lakewood (303) 987-7190

Regional Brownfields Team U.S. EPA - Region 8 (303) 312-6837

Visit the EPA Region 8 Brownfields web site at: http://www.epa.gov/region08/html/brown/brownf.html

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/

used to conduct environmental investigations on targeted brownfields sites, and to develop cleanup plans for specific sites.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Developing a central database of environmental information related to brownfields properties;
- Performing environmental assessments on priority properties; and
- Designing cleanup plans for assessed properties with redevelopment potential.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.